

**NATIONAL ENDOWMENT
FOR THE HUMANITIES**

SAMPLE APPLICATION NARRATIVE



Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops for
Community College Faculty
Institution: Univeristy of Mississippi



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National Endowment for the Humanities Division of Education Programs

Narrative Section of a Successful Application

This sample of the narrative portion from a grant is provided as an example of a funded proposal. It will give you a sense of how a successful application may be crafted. It is not intended to serve as a model. Every successful application is different, and each applicant is urged to prepare a proposal that reflects its unique project and aspirations. Prospective applicants are also strongly encouraged to consult with staff members in the NEH Division of Education Programs well before a grant deadline. This sample proposal does not include a budget, letters of commitment, résumés, or evaluations.

Project Title: *Death, War and Remembrance: The Memory and Commemoration of the American Civil War*

Institution: University of Mississippi

Project Director: John Neff

Grant Program: Landmarks of American History and Culture Workshops for Community College Teachers

Landmarks of American History: Workshops for Community College Teachers
Death, War and Remembrance
The Memory and Commemoration of the American Civil War
Proposed by The University of Mississippi
Program Director: Dr. John Neff

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Landmarks of American History: Workshops for Community College Teachers
Death, War and Remembrance:
The Memory and Commemoration of the American Civil War

Intellectual Rationale

Although the American Civil War has long captivated our collective historical imagination, it is only within the last few years that historians have begun to apply new analytical approaches to interpret our most familiar and poignant national crisis. By reaching beyond the events and issues of the war itself, and by working to understand the effects of the war on those who lived and survived it, we begin to think about that period – now 140 years past – with renewed conviction of its relevance to us today.

This additional perspective comes from thinking about memory – individual and collective – as a new source of historical information. Individuals form memories about significant issues or events in their lives. These memories, by nature highly subjective, are nothing less than an individual's perception of their own personal connection to the source of each memory. These memories, and the relationships they reveal, can be recorded and communicated – in oral history or in more traditional historical sources (e.g., letters, diaries, memoirs). Although subjective and even idiosyncratic, these individual recollections can illuminate an intimate past in a fashion unlike any other source. Importantly, their value is not relative to their historical accuracy, but instead lies in the honest and incontestable relationship between individual and history that each memory describes.

Beyond the scope of the individual, shared memories may become the basis of public and collective action, identifying for the historian group values and communal identity. For example, understanding how groups in the aftermath of the Civil War erected monuments, held memorial services, supported veterans, and commemorated the landscape itself through battlefield preservation permits historians to interpret the meaning and values attributed to that conflict by those who survived it. When added to our knowledge of the military struggle of 1861-1865, an understanding of how Americans – men and women, Northern and Southern, black and white – lived in the shadow of that war permits us to see its significance in their lives for generations after the guns had fallen silent.

Such commemorative activities have recently become of great interest to historians. With heightened sensitivity to public performance, ritual and social memory, historians have begun to explore acts of commemoration

as moments of public discourse expressing important connections between the individuals and groups participating in such activities and the objects of their commemoration. To date, much of this work has been European in orientation, and especially – but not exclusively – devoted to the aftermath of World War I.¹ Intellectually, these proposed NEH workshops for community college teachers would draw far more heavily on American scholarship that takes the Civil War as its primary focus, since the American example is characterized by significant aspects that have no parallel in the European post-WWI experience. Furthermore, this program of study will emphasize commemorations and landmarks based in and around the North Mississippi area, an area rich in Civil War historical sites, through visits to battlefields in Corinth, Mississippi and Shiloh, Tennessee as well as to Civil War cemeteries in Shiloh, Corinth, Holly Springs and Oxford, Mississippi.

The fundamental nature of Civil War commemoration contains tensions between divergent northern and southern interpretations of the war not apparent in the early twentieth-century European commemorations. For example, following World War I, no European nation confronted large portions of its own populace intent on commemorating the activities of the enemy. But, since reunification was an explicit goal of the victorious Union, the commemoration of the Confederate experience formed a crucial, contentious aspect of the post-war national memorialization. The literature to date also reflects some disagreement as to the nature and interpretation of public commemorations as – on the one hand – gestures toward reconciliation and reunion, and – on the other – memorials reflecting a particularly regional understanding of the war and its significance.² In the years following the American

¹ Paul Fussel, *The Great War and Modern Memory* (N.Y.: Oxford University Press, 1975); J. M. Winter, *Sites of Memory, Sites of Mourning: The Great War in European Cultural History* (N.Y.: Cambridge University Press, 1995); Thomas Laqueur, "Memory and Naming in the Great War," in *Commemorations: The Politics of National Identity*, ed. John R. Gillis (Princeton, N.J.: Princeton University Press, 1994), 150-167; Alex King, *Memorials of the Great War in Britain* (Oxford: Berg, 1998).

² Paul Buck pioneered the study of reunion in his *The Road to Reunion* (Boston: Little, Brown and Co., 1937). More recently see, Nina Silber, *Romance of Reunion: Northerners and the South, 1865-1900* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1993); Carol Reardon, *Pickett's Charge in History and Memory* (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1997); David W. Blight, *Race and Reunion: The Civil War in American Memory* (Cambridge: Harvard University Press, 2001); John R. Neff, *Honoring the Civil War Dead: Commemoration and the Problem of Reconciliation* (Lawrence: University Press of Kansas, 2005).

Civil War, Northerners and Southerners struggled to understand their separate commemorations within a larger re-unified national context.

As historians, through the exploration of memory, we share this struggle today. And because we can share it, because we can readily access the issues that motivated their struggle through the tangible result of their activities – the monuments, the battlefield parks, and the cemeteries – our community college faculty can as readily be trained to assist students in understanding and, more importantly, engage with the struggle that remains the most enduring legacy of our Civil War.

Content and Design

We propose to conduct this week-long residential workshop twice in June of 2007. It is our intent to combine classroom instruction, seminars for skills acquisition, and opportunities for one-on-one sessions with workshop faculty and relevant local preservationists in addition to providing content-rich guided interactions with Civil War monuments, battlefields and cemeteries. We propose as well to give participants ample time to work with archival materials at The University of Mississippi so that engagement with primary documents is facilitated, and participants can become fluent with the relevance of such materials encountered either here or back home in their own communities, a practice they can return to often to enrich both their personal scholarship experiences and the learning potential of future students.

Our teacher/scholars will not only participate in all the weekly activities and sessions, but will complete a research paper after they return home, and submit it for final review, assessment and grade (more on this below in *Research Project*). Program Director John Neff will read, comment upon and evaluate participant submissions.

Classroom sessions will focus on providing the intellectual and informational context for the workshop, and the Program Director along with Program Faculty and Program Docents will guide course content. Their sessions will concentrate on introducing memory as a form of analysis and the theoretical underpinnings of that methodology (see *Faculty and Staff* section, below, for specifics on Program Faculty and their areas of expertise, and curriculum vitae in the attachments section for full biographical summaries). Additionally, these sessions provide the historical context of reunion and reconciliation efforts from the end of the Civil War through much of the twentieth century.

Skill seminars will cover a wide variety of instruction and research acquisition topics, including utilizing primary source evidence in the classroom, encouraging students to broaden their understanding of evidence through considerations of contemporary art and literature, guiding students to academically reliable sources of historical evidence on the Internet, and an interactive introduction to the motifs and symbolism of nineteenth-century memorialization. The University of Mississippi's Civil War Archives and library staff (led by University Archivist Jennifer Ford) will steer workshop participants towards many of these goals. Additionally, three young historians trained here at The University of Mississippi (one is in the process of writing her dissertation, the other two finish their doctorates in May, 2006) will serve key roles in skill seminars and monument presentations. Audrey Uffner, ABD, will serve as Program Ombudsman and will be present during all library periods for workshop participants, to troubleshoot and find appropriate help for any questions about usage of the collections and documents. Program Docent Toby G. Bates will focus his training session for the workshops on interpreting web-based resources, a specialty of his graduate research. Program Docent Brian C. Miller will lead our community college teacher/scholars on a tour of on-campus Civil War monuments and markers.

Our planned *guided interactions* include visits to and interpretive tours of the following off-campus locations:

Shiloh National Military Park and National Cemetery, Shiloh, Tennessee (in partnership with the National Parks Service (NPS), our group greeted by Park Director Woody Harrell);

Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center (NPS), Corinth, Mississippi (in partnership with the Siege and Battle of Corinth Commission's Chairman, Rosemary T. Williams, and Dr. Timothy Smith, Park Ranger (see below for more on Williams and Smith);

Hillcrest Cemetery, Holly Springs, Mississippi (with interpretation by Program Director John Neff);

Optional: Rowan Oak, novelist William Faulkner's antebellum home in Oxford, Mississippi (with interpretation by Museum Curator William Griffith).

One-on-one interactive opportunities with Program Faculty and staff will be provided both on campus and at the battlefields and cemeteries we visit in these workshops. Throughout the two workshop weeks, informal settings (lunches, coffee breaks, an evening campfire, discussion sessions and travel hours) will serve as access periods, enabling our community college teacher/scholars to confer with staff and with each other about the designated

landmarks included in our study. Additional support will be available post-workshop as well, via email interaction and website availability of key course materials.

Simultaneously, then, our teacher/scholars will be encouraged to engage with landmark sites on the basis of their intrinsic historical interest as well as for their commemorative and memorial functions. By extension, participants can begin to view such manifestations of public attention and focus as guideposts in American cultural studies. For example, Shiloh National Military Park represents a significant moment in our nation's military history in 1862, while its preservation as a battlefield park and the extensive monumentation of its grounds by state, veteran and regional groups provides significant commentary on the importance of the ground throughout the intervening years, and the creation of landmark status within the National Parks system. Shiloh the national landmark is nothing less than a repository of the American people's communal ethos, and symbolizes the power of memory to compel acts of memorialization.

Readings for the Workshop will be varied and diverse, ranging from scholarly works, classroom guides and portions of the literature of the period. Before arrival, participants will be advised to be familiar with the following:

David Blight, *Beyond the Battlefield: Race, Memory and the American Civil War* (Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press, 2002), various essays;
Thomas J. Brown, *The Public Art of Civil War Commemoration: A Brief History with Documents* (Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 2004).

While in residence, participants will be presented with a series of excerpts and short stories designed to highlight the ways in which writers contemporary with the war, and writers since, have struggled to shape the memory of the conflict. Workshop readings will include:

Louisa May Alcott, "The Brothers", *Atlantic Monthly* (November 1863): 584-595;
Walt Whitman, *Drum Taps* and *Specimen Days* (N.Y.: Library of America, 1982), selected poetry/prose;
William Faulkner, *The Unvanquished* (N.Y.: Vintage International Edition, 1991), Chapter One, "Ambuscade" pp. 3-36;
Ambrose Bierce, "Chickamauga," and "A Son of the Gods," in *Ambrose Bierce's Civil War* (N.Y.: Wings Books, 1956), 99-116;
Sarah Orne Jewett, "Decoration Day," in *A Native of Wimby and Other Tales* (Boston: Houghton Mifflin, Co., 1893), 39-64;
Stephen Crane, *Red Badge of Courage* (N.Y.: Library of America, 1984), chapter 3 [pp. 99-110];
Shelby Foote, *Shiloh: A Novel* (N.Y.: Random House, 1952), chapter 3 [pp. 63-93].

Program Schedule

Sunday – Arrival on The University of Mississippi campus, Oxford, MS, and installation of participants in University dormitories, The Inn at Ole Miss, or other area hotels/motels (with their stipends, their choice). Maximum stipend savings per participant are possible should they elect to stay in dormitory housing on-campus (see attachment for housing costs). Shuttle services provided for those flying in to the Memphis airport, down to Oxford (and back at week's end), and from the campus to downtown square/back to lodgings for off-campus meals throughout the week. On Sunday night, dinner will be on their own, with a sign-up sheet available to meet with other participants and shuttle in group(s) to town locations. Participants will receive in the mail prior to arrival a list of shuttle departure times from the airport, area restaurants, Oxford map, emergency numbers and contacts, Oxford sites of interest, etc. (See attachments for statements of support from Outreach and Housing Directors, The University of Mississippi.)

Monday –

8:00 – 8:45 Breakfast orientation, Johnson Commons dining hall. A meeting with key Program personnel, including Program Director John Neff, Ph.D and Associate Professor of History; Program Ombudsman Audrey Uffner, ABD, Graduate Student, Department of History; and Program Archivist Jennifer Ford, Head of University Archives and Special Collections. Program will review the week's activities and pedagogical goals.

9:00 – 10:00 Instructional Session: "Remembrance of Things Past: The Art and Theory of Historical Memory" John Neff, Program Director. Class session will introduce participants to the methodology and theory of historical memory studies. Ranging from the work of sociologist Maurice Halbwachs in the 1930s to the current practices of historian David Blight and others, participants will be introduced to the key issues and conceptual vocabulary necessary for the rest of the week's programming.

10:30 – 12:00 Workshop Session. "Utilizing Archival Materials in Teaching the Civil War" Jennifer Ford, Program Archivist, assisted by Audrey Uffner, Program Ombudsman. Workshop will introduce participants to the rich and diverse Civil War archival materials in the University's Special Collections. This session will not only introduce the possibilities inherent in encouraging archival research among community college students, but will also provide a foundation for our participants' individual research project and the intellectual framework necessary to consider such materials for curriculum use in their classrooms back home.

Archives highlighted:

Lionel Baxter Collection, 1851-1986. Wartime and postwar correspondence of Confederates on a wide variety of subjects, also includes engravings, muster rolls, maps and an extensive collection of books. 7 boxes.

Juanita Brown Collection, 1861-1864. Extensive Civil War correspondence, notably J. H. Buford to his sisters; Buford a member of the 4th Tennessee Infantry, and later the 32nd Mississippi Infantry. 6 boxes.

A list of all Civil War Archival materials will be distributed to participants, with opportunity throughout the week to further study (on their own, with help) these primary sources. (See attached listing of Civil War Archives at The University of Mississippi).

12:00 – 1:00 One-on-one interactive session - Lunch with Jennifer Ford and Audrey Uffner at Johnson Commons dining hall. Reflecting on the power of primary documents and their applicability to the history classroom.

1:00 – 1:30 Instructional Session: Overview of the Research Project

John Neff, Program Director. One of the key instructional tools of the week is to introduce participants to a research project focused on primary sources. The project will be introduced at this time, and a list of potential research opportunities provided (suggested only, participants may choose their own topic/study focus, after consultation with the Program Director).

1:30 – 2:30 Lecture. "Masculinity and Femininity in the Monuments of the Civil War"

Thomas J. Brown, Program Faculty. The monuments and statuary erected after the Civil War indicate a wide spectrum of cultural information, not the least of which includes perceptions and prescriptions of

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gender ideals. How noble men and nurturing women are portrayed throughout Southern and Northern war monumentation reveals much about subsequent views held by communities regarding the social change unleashed by the conflict.

2:30 – 2:45 *Coffee and/or Soda Break (provided)*

2:45 – 4:00 *One-on-one interactive session - Participants will have an opportunity to further explore themes brought forward by Program Faculty members John Neff and Thomas Brown, on a more informal basis and in small groups, and to discuss among themselves also the content of this afternoon's lecture. The small group and individual interactions will encourage participants to identify problems and needs in their efforts to promote Civil War research generally among their students. Once identified, future sessions can address remedies for these problems and the applicability of this workshop to their home environments.*

4:00 – 7:00 *Dinner Break and Free Time, on their own, Johnson Commons dining hall open or go to town locations.*

7:00 *Optional evening walk through Bailey's Woods and tour of local landmark Rowan Oak, one of the two surviving antebellum structures in Oxford, and the novelist William Faulkner's home from 1930 until his death in 1962. William Griffith, Rowan Oak Curator, will lead a tour for those who elect to visit this home on the fringes of The University of Mississippi campus, and he'll explain why this building survived Yankee occupation, and how that survival became a source of inspiration for this Nobel Prize novelist's life and fiction.*

Reading for Evening: Alcott, Whitman and Faulkner selections.

Tuesday – Breakfast on campus, in Johnson Commons dining hall, or on their own.

8:30 – 9:30 *Tour of the University of Mississippi's Civil War Monuments and Markers*

Brian C. Miller, Program Docent. The University of Mississippi played host to both Confederate and Union soldiers during the war, particularly in its role as a hospital for the wounded from the Battle of Shiloh. Additionally, the student body left as a group in the spring of 1861, many of them as a part of the University Greys, Co. A, of the Eleventh Mississippi Infantry Regiment. That regiment suffered 100% casualties at the Battle of Gettysburg, and none of the surviving members returned to complete their education.

9:45 – 10:45 *Workshop Session "The Civil War on the Web"*

Toby G. Bates, Program Docent. Participants will be taken to Weir Hall in the Galtney Center for Academic Computing, home to the University's state of the art computing resources, and introduced to the dizzying array of Civil War resources available on the Internet. (See attachment about Weir Hall.) The main thrust of this hands-on computer instruction is to help community college faculty develop the facility necessary to guide their students to reliable and appropriate information sources, and away from websites of a polemical and ahistorical character. This will also provide an introduction to resources easily accessed anywhere, and sample curriculum additions, to be found from such searches.

11:00 – 12:00 *Presentation: "Echoes of the Lost Cause: Civil War Memory during the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement"*

Leigh McWhite, Program Faculty. Leigh McWhite's research into the collision of 1960s Civil Rights activists and resisters with the legacy of Civil War memory is presented as an illustrated (slide show) lecture, and demonstrates how clearly the campaign for social equity in Mississippi was at odds with its heritage as confrontations coalesced around the state's monuments honoring the Confederacy.

12:00 – 1:00 *Lunch (Johnson Commons dining hall or on their own)*

1:00 – 2:00 *Lecture. "Race and Memory in Civil War Monuments"*

Kirk Savage, Program Faculty. Frederick Douglass called the Emancipation Monument in Washington, D.C., the first "national act" by men and women who had so recently been enslaved. Dedicated on the twenty-fifth anniversary of Emancipation, the monument's erection threw into high relief the uncertain position of blacks in society, even as its statuary embodied the abiding contradictions of the perception of race in America.

2:00 – 2:15 *Coffee and/or Soda Break (provided)*

2:15 – 3:30 *Small Discussion groups, one-on-one time with Drs. McWhite and Savage.*

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- 4:00 – 6:00 *Session for Individual Research (Library, Archives, and Computer Center), aided by Program Ombudsman Audrey Uffner, and Program Docent Toby Bates (both available for individual consultation and assistance with research projects).*
- 6:00 – 7:30 *Dinner break and free time, on their own (shuttles to downtown restaurant area).*
Reading for evening: Bierce and Jewett short stories.

Wednesday –

- 7:00 - *Breakfast on their own, or at Johnson Commons dining hall.*
- 8:00 - *Travel to Shiloh National Military Park. En route: One-on-one research project discussion time with Program Director John Neff, and Uffner, Bates and Miller.*
- 10:00- *Tour of Park, Greetings from Park Director Woody Harrell (see attachment/support letter). Nearly 24,000 were either killed or wounded in the Battle of Shiloh in early April, 1862, the numbers nearly evenly split between Confederate and Union troops. Today, Shiloh National Military Park is a principal military landmark of the National Parks Service, and a crucial laboratory for exploring historical memory. Participants will be challenged throughout the tour to relate the historical events of 1862 with the tides and fashions of preservation and commemoration over the intervening decades. 4,000 acres are under protection for this landmark battlefield and cemetery area. Of particular note as well are prehistoric Indian mounds, well-preserved, within park boundaries. Program Director John Neff will lead the battlefield tour at Shiloh.*
- 1:00 - *Box lunch (provided), one-on-one time with John Neff, Uffner, Bates and Miller, and each other.*
- 2:00 - *Tour of Shiloh National Cemetery and national landmark (see attachments on Shiloh). This cemetery, like all national cemeteries, reflects its Civil War origins, as all were created over a five year period immediately after that conflict. As such, they also are inherently commemorative landscapes that embody the sentiment and perspective of the victorious Northern government that created them. Emphasis will be placed on the nationalist messages inherent in the cemetery, particularly important in national cemeteries created on southern soil. Moreover, the cemetery provides a sharp contrast between the honored Union dead and the Confederate mass burials scattered across the battlefield.*
- 4:00 - *Travel to Crow's Neck, an Environmental Education and Conference Center just outside Tishomingo, Mississippi (see attachments on Crow's Neck and bid for services). Crow's Neck is a unique woodland campus south of Corinth, and allows adult groups a secluded retreat to relax in nature. While there, one can imagine going back in time, indeed imagine yourself a resident of the late 19th, rather than the early 21st, century. This Center will provide a remarkable setting for peaceful contemplation of the day's tour of Shiloh and its cemetery, and prepares the group well for the next day's equally evocative day in Corinth, Mississippi, visiting another battle site, and later the cemetery at Holly Springs. The staff of Crow's Neck will provide an evening meal for our group to share, and conduct an optional evening walk to view the stars. A campfire and informal discussion period around the fire will be offered to our participants. We will spend the night at Crow's Neck, in its lodges, and reflect in its rustic setting.*
Reading for the evening: Foote and Crane chapters.

Thursday –

- 7:00 - *Breakfast at Crow's Neck Conference Center.*
- 8:00 - *Bus departs for Corinth, Mississippi*
- 9:00 - *Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center, greeted by Rosemary T. Williams, Chairperson, Siege and Battle of Corinth Commission and Board Member Emeritus of The Civil War Preservation Trust. (see Corinth attachments). Ms. Williams and her groups have been critical in the pursuit of federal funds to add additional acreage to the Corinth designated landmark/park area (part of the Shiloh Park system), and their recent success in fundraising for the creation of the Corinth Civil War Interpretive Center (opened*

- in July 2004) is a notable, significant achievement. Ms. Williams will speak to the group about her Commission's activities on behalf of preservation of Corinth sites.*
- 10:00 - *Walking Tour of adjacent (to Center location) earthworks/Civil War battle areas (with Ms. Williams, illustrating part of her group's continuing effort to purchase/preserve Civil War sites in Corinth).*
- 11:00 - *Lecture [Corinth Center Auditorium] "The Creation of Shiloh National Military Park"*
Timothy Smith, Program Faculty, National Park Service. Created in 1894, Shiloh National Military Park was a centerpiece of the "golden age" of battlefield preservation. The pattern of local, state, and federal involvement in the commemorative process – usually led by veterans – remained largely a Northern program, as it was elsewhere. Shiloh, however, because of its remote location and lack of major urban environment, developed more slowly, but better managed its preservation of the battlefield than did similar park efforts throughout the nation.
- 12:00 - *Box lunch (provided by Crow's Neck staff) in the courtyard at Corinth, with one-on-one interaction time with Rosemary T. Williams and Timothy Smith. Following lunch, participants will have ample time to tour the Corinth Center's exhibits and displays.*
- 2:30 - *Bus departs Corinth site.*
- 4:00 - *Holly Springs Hillcrest Cemetery*
John Neff, Program Director. Cemeteries are features common to every town and city, but few think to utilize cemeteries as teaching tools. Participants will be encouraged to regard burial grounds as places of commemoration and historical memory by understanding the complex threads of local history that intersect in the Hillcrest Cemetery of Holly Springs, Mississippi. In addition to Civil War generals, soldiers and Confederate prisoners of war, the post-war turmoil of the region is readily apparent – the grounds reveal the city's encounter with the yellow fever epidemics that raged through the area, and the political dimensions of race and leadership. Among the notable buried here is Hiram Revels, the first black American elected to the U.S. Senate, who filled in Reconstruction the seat vacated by Jefferson Davis in 1861. He is interred in the segregated portion of the grounds (a boundary that later generations of residents have worked to obscure).
- 5:30 - *Arrival back in Oxford, Mississippi. Group members are free for dinner and evening hours.*

Friday –

- 8:00 - *Breakfast in Johnson Commons Dining Hall or on their own.*
- 9:00 - *Workshop: Art and Literature as Sources of Civil War Memory*
John Neff, Program Director. Participants will be led through an interactive discussion of the literary readings assigned for the week and their relevance for teaching the changing perceptions of Civil War memory. Additionally, they will be encouraged to interpret a broad spectrum of images focused on the Civil War era, with images ranging from Winslow Homer and Constant Mayer to the artists of the Harlem Renaissance. Slide presentation.
- 11:00 - *Tour: University of Mississippi Confederate Cemetery*
Brian Miller, Program Docent. Coming full circle, a guided tour of the University's modest Confederate cemetery will demonstrate the contrast in Civil War burial and commemoration, from battlefield grave, to national cemetery, to city cemetery, to hospital burial grounds.
- 11:30 - *Lunch/packing (on their own, Johnson Commons dining hall available).*
- 1:00 - *Optional small group discussions: Research projects (with Neff, Uffner).*
- 2:00 - *Shuttles provided to Memphis airport (earlier leave time can be arranged if necessary, or participants may wish to arrange, on their own, an evening in Memphis, on Beale Street, renown for its music, food, and street scene). Once shuttled to Memphis airport, participants who traveled by plane are on their own.*

Faculty and Staff

The instructional framework for this workshop will be strengthened significantly by the inclusion of some of the preeminent scholars and professionals currently working in the field of Civil War memory and commemoration.

Our Program Faculty includes (see attachments for curriculum vitae and support statements):

Thomas Brown, Associate Professor of History and Assistant Director of the Institute of Southern Studies, University of South Carolina, and author of The Public Art of Civil War Commemoration (2004) and the editor of the forthcoming Reconstructions: New Perspectives on the Postbellum United States (2006);

Jennifer W. Ford (MA, MALS University of Southern Mississippi). Head of Archives and Special Collections and Associate Professor, J. D. Williams Library, The University of Mississippi;

Sally Leigh McWhite (Ph.D., University of Mississippi), Assistant Professor and Political Papers Archivist, The University of Mississippi. Her dissertation, on the rich legacy of historical memory in Mississippi in the Twentieth Century, highlights the significant interaction between social memory and racial tension. She is currently working on the papers of Senator James O. Eastland;

John Neff (Ph.D., University of California/Riverside). Associate Professor of History, The University of Mississippi, and author of Honoring the Civil War Dead: Commemoration and the Problem of Reconciliation (2005);

Kirk Savage (Ph.D., University of California/Berkeley) Associate Professor and Chair, History of Art and Architecture, University of Pittsburgh, and author of Standing Soldiers, Kneeling Slaves: Race, War and Monument in Nineteenth Century America (1997) and a forthcoming work on the monumented landscape of Washington, D.C.;

Timothy Smith (Ph.D., Mississippi State). Park Ranger, Shiloh National Military Park, and author of This Great Battlefield: History, Memory, and the Establishment of a Civil War National Military Park (2004).

Rosemary T. Williams. Member, Board of Trustees, Mississippi Department of Archives and History; member, Mississippi Civil War Commission; chair, Siege and Battle of Corinth Commission; Executive Director, Corinth Area Arts Council, Inc.; Emeritus member, Board of Trustees, The Civil War Preservation Trust; Appointed to the Mississippi School of the Arts Board by the State Board of Education. Recipient of numerous civic awards including 1996 "Preservationist of the Year" award from the Mississippi Heritage Trust.

Workshops will also benefit from the involvement of the following individuals:

Program Docent: Toby G. Bates (Ph.D. expected., University of Mississippi, May, 2006), an historian of memory, who first learned his craft on a Masters' Thesis on Union General Benjamin M. Prentiss – the neglected hero of Shiloh – has extended his expertise in his thorough and innovative dissertation on President Ronald Reagan.

Project Administrator Robert Fox (MS, University of Oklahoma). Will coordinate outreach and continuing education role for the Program (housing, travel, meals, etc.). Will work with Program Ombudsman Audrey Uffner in managing day-to-day needs of Program participants. Will provide certificates of completion and facilitate continuing education credit for those who wish to earn CEUs for their week of study.

Director of Marketing: Janey Ginn (MA, Mississippi State University). Will oversee website creation for this Program and will work with Program Ombudsman Audrey Uffner to load materials for participants onto the website before and after Program weeks.

Director of Media Productions and Distributed Learning: Andrew Harper (Ph.D., Northern Arizona University). Will oversee filming of Neff and McWhite lectures, and will place lectures on Program website for distance learning possibilities.

Program Docent Brian C. Miller (Ph.D. expected, University of Mississippi, May, 2006. A Civil War historian, Miller's most recent research -- "John Bell Hood and the Fight for Civil War Memory: A Cultural Biography" -- infuses memory as a methodology into the most traditional form of Civil War writing, the military biography.

Program Ombudsman Audrey Uffner (ABD, University of Mississippi). Uffner's work centers on Southern secessionists, particularly on the cost of their supporting secession during and after the Civil War (levied on their reputations, lives, and memory). She will work with Program Director Neff in the semester before and after the workshops, as well as during, to provide correspondence service to all applicants, serve on the selection committee, and aid website creation and maintenance. During the workshops she will be on hand each day for any needs that arise concerning the schedule and/or the needs of the teacher/scholars.

Research Project:

In order to complete an instructional example exercising methodology easily applicable to their own students, workshop teacher/scholars will be assigned a research project, a shared effort entitled "Voices of the American Civil War." Unlike traditional research papers or essays, this project – drawn from a model developed at The University of Mississippi – requires students to develop an understanding of the breadth of discovery made possible by historical research. On virtually any given subject, participants will seek primary evidence from across the contemporary social spectrum, to incorporate evidence recorded by the military, political figures of the day as well as private citizenry to create a record more representative of the full spectrum of American society (transecting racial, social, gender, and economic class boundaries). By encouraging students to grapple with the diversity of Americans who participated in and witnessed the Civil War, they come to a better understanding of its likely significance across similar boundaries in our society today.

The research project will be assigned on the first day of the workshop, and time will be allotted throughout the week for participants to discuss possible topics and begin their research utilizing the resources of The University of Mississippi's archival collections. Participants will be expected to complete their projects after returning to their own schools – incorporating whenever possible primary document and/or web-based information gleaned from their community's resources or through their own web research. It is our expectation that they will utilize the new skills and theoretical approaches acquired during the workshop sessions to prepare and then submit their work for review

and evaluation within three weeks of completing the program. Their skills, this project, will in turn serve as an educational tool they can use in their classrooms, once they return to their home communities.

Selection of Participants

These NEH workshops will be of interest to community college teachers of history and the humanities, particularly to those responsible for teaching courses concerning the American Nineteenth Century. Moreover, the techniques of historical memory are applicable far beyond the era of the Civil War. Adjunct and part-time lecturers as well as full-time faculty are eligible to apply, as required by the NEH, and the additional eligibility requests of the NEH (degree and employment status, etc.) will also be strictly adhered to in the marketing and selection process.

Program Director John Neff and two other members of the project staff will serve on our selection committee. In addition to the formal application materials (detailed resume and a letter of recommendation from an immediate supervisor), community college teachers interested in these workshops will submit a 750-word (maximum) statement of interest in the topic that identifies how they believe participation in it will improve their performance as teachers in the classroom.

Interest in the Civil War continues to be strong, and we anticipate this interest to drive a strong applicant pool for our workshops. It is our intent to bring together a teacher/scholar group for each week that represents a diversity of geography, ethnicity, race and gender.

Institutional Context

The University of Mississippi has several decades of experience hosting a variety of summer institutes for learning, and we will benefit from this experience in the execution of these NEH seminars. Our Division of Outreach and Continuing Education will provide -- via Program Administrator Robert Fox, Marketing Director Janey Ginn and Director of Media Productions Andy Harper -- an umbrella of management skills that in turn enables the other Program officials to deliver the very best product imaginable for the participants.

On campus, lodging and meals are available through multiple venues providing maximum variety and choice. Participants can choose to spend stipend dollars on rooms at The Inn at Ole Miss (centrally located across from our campus green), or stay in even more affordable dormitory lodging (see attached budget materials for specifics on lodging and meal options), or they may prefer to select an off-campus, in town bed-and-breakfast or

hotel. If they choose dormitory lodging, they will be in single rooms that have shared but individually stalled hallway bathrooms. Meals on campus range from multi-menu opportunities (including vegetarian options) in a full-service cafeteria dining hall in the University's Johnson Commons, to coffee shop items (in the J.D. Williams Library, Weir Hall), a la carte menu style at the student center, or convenience store options (at the student center), all located in easy walking distance on campus. All campus locations utilized in this workshop are wheelchair-accessible.

Also within easy walking and/or shuttle (provided by the office of Outreach) distance from campus are fast-food restaurants as well as low/moderate/and high-end establishments, serving everything from specialty Southern foods to Italian, Chinese, and nouvelle cuisine. Oxford is well-known throughout the south as a food-lover's paradise, offering many more options than towns similar in size.

Our overnight trip to Crow's Neck Environmental Center offers dormitory-style lodge amenities, shared bathrooms, and full-service meal options. Staff at the Center will address dietary concerns as needed. The only additional gear needed by participants will be comfortable walking shoes should they choose to participate in the evening walk and campfire.

Most of the week's lectures will be given in the office of Outreach's Yerby Center classroom, which is adjacent to The Inn at Ole Miss, centrally located across from the college green, and a few minutes walk from University dormitories. The taped lectures by Neff and McWhite will be presented in the Galtney Center for Academic Computing in Weir Hall, adjacent to the University library. The session on internet use for research activities will also be conducted in Weir Hall, where recently renovated, state-of-the-art smart classroom space with terminals at every desk makes quick work of showing students how to navigate the web and utilize its best sources to create teaching aids, explore research materials, and advance curriculum development.

Our teacher/scholars will spend time also in the J.D. Williams Library and University Archives, also centrally located on campus. The University of Mississippi has an extensive collection of Civil War archival material (*see J.D. Williams Library and Archives attachment*), and has dedicated scholars working towards their preservation and access to the public. We will benefit from the expertise of two Archives principals, Jennifer Ford and Leigh McWhite, who will spend considerable time with our participants during the workshops, and after via email access.

Outreach and Promotion

We will work with the NEH to fully publicize these workshops, and as the NEH programs are highly regarded throughout academia and the private sector, we will benefit from its long track record in compelling some of the best possible candidates to seek additional training and course-content opportunities for learning. Additionally, we intend to publicize the seminars in either the publications, websites and weblinks, or listservs of the following:

The American Association of Community Colleges;
The Community College Humanities Association;
H-Net (listservs for teachers and researchers in the arts, humanities,
and social sciences), specifically, its sub-sites H-CivWar (with over
1,000 active members with keen interest in the Civil War); H-AmStdy
(American Studies); H-PCAACA (Popular Culture Association and American
Culture Association); H-Public (Public History); H-SAWH (Women and
Gender in the U.S. South); H-Slavery (History of Slavery); and H-South
(History of the South).
The Civil War Preservation Trust (of which one of our faculty, Rosemary T. Williams, is
a recently-retired, Emeritus board member.

In every instance, we will note that application materials and workshop details are available at the NEH website, and on the dedicated Program website at The University of Mississippi (links to be found either through its History Department site, or its Division of Outreach and Continuing Education site). Throughout the semester before, during and after these workshops, advice about the workshops can be accessed through Program Administrator Robert Fox, Program Ombudsman Audrey Uffner, or Program Director John Neff, all of whom will be identified on the website, with email addresses and phone numbers listed.

Again, the Division of Outreach and Continuing Education has decades of experience working with summer programming groups (everything from youth sports camps, to National Science Foundation seminars, to international student exchanges, and more) on The University of Mississippi's Oxford campus. We are confident of a successful partnership with the NEH for these proposed workshops for community college faculty, if chosen for funding.

Dissemination and Evaluation

Our Program website will facilitate exchange between faculty, staff and participants both pre-and post workshop weeks. Program Director Neff will utilize an email listserv to communicate with selected participants (if someone does not use such technology, they will self-identify in application, and subsequent interaction with these individuals will be by mail). The very nature of the kind of research explored and promoted in these workshops will,

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however, encourage web usage after, if not before, by the teacher/scholars who come for these weeks of discovery. For the few community teachers that arrive untutored in internet use, they will leave the workshops with basic training and a comprehension level that will likely drive them to continue their web work once home, and back in the classroom. It is a pedagogical intent of this workshop to teach teachers to refine and maximize their use of the 21st century's most ubiquitous technological tool.

For those not participating in the on-site workshops, but interested in our topic of study, we will make available as links on our website the workshop lectures, including Dr. Neff's initial instructional session: *"Remembrance of Things Past: The Art and Theory of Historical Memory"* and Dr. McWhite's *"Echoes of the Lost Cause: Civil War Memory during the Mississippi Civil Rights Movement"* as well as the other on-campus lectures included in our program. Our Media and Production Services Director, Dr. Andy Harper, will film these lectures and give the links to our Marketing and Program staff to place on the website. Dr. Harper films presentations routinely at The University of Mississippi and makes them available for distance learning purposes (our extension campuses in Tupelo and in Southaven benefit often from filmed main campus offerings). Furthermore, it is our intention (and in our budget) to edit and produce 100 DVD copies of the workshop lectures, to mail to those interested but unable to participate in the workshops. Our website will be maintained for one year after the workshops, with NEH sponsorship fully noted, and all relevant materials for the program kept online. Finally, we will also air the lectures on our public access Channel 99 (viewing audience throughout northern Mississippi) throughout the summer following the workshops, noting NEH sponsorship of the Program. Ample distance learning opportunities will be provided if The University of Mississippi is selected for participation in the NEH's summer 2007 plans.

Dr. Neff will read and respond to the final research papers our teacher/scholars produce, and will, with Program Administrator Robert Fox, supply certificates of completion for those who successfully participate in all workshop sessions and submit acceptable final projects. Continuing Education credits (3 hours equivalence) will be available at nominal cost (\$15) to participants who would like more formal recognition of their completion of the seminar.

We hope for the inclusion of The University of Mississippi in your 2007 plans.

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